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COUNTRY USSR (Estonia)

SUBJECT Army 'Aero-Sleigh' Winter Exercises on Lake Peipus

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1. "In February of 1953 exercises of 'Aero-Sleigh' units of the Leningrad Military District were conducted on Lake Peipus in Estonia. The units participating were the Independent Aero-Sleigh Companies (OTDSLNYE AEROSANNYE ROTY) and 1 dependent Transport Aero-Sleigh Companies (OTDELNYE TRANSPORTNYE AEROSANNYE ROTY):

- (a) The Otdelnye Aerosannye Roty sleighs of the ANT-type have a light gasoline-driven aviation motor of 110 hp and a maximum velocity of 140 km per hour on even snow. They are armed with one heavy machine-gun and each sleigh carries three men. Every company in the exercises had 12 ANT sleighs.
- (b) The Otdelnye Transportnye Aerosannye Roty use auto-sleighs of the OSGA-type which have a gasoline-driven aviation motor of 100 hp and a maximum velocity of 60 km per hour. An OSGA sleigh transports five armed men or a 500 kg load. Every transport company had 12 OSGA sleighs.

2. "Both the ANT and OSGA sleighs were manufactured completely of metal, including the runners."

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